Power crisis in the Capital

422. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned No end insight to power crisis, residents' plight which appeared in The Delhi Age' dated the 21st June, 2000;

(b) if so, whether the Central Government have taken any remedial steps in consultation with the Delhi Government to resolve the power crisis in the capital;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Due to excessive hot weather conditions during peak summer months in Delhi, there had been a spurt in power demand associated with high drawal of reactive power mainly due to weather beating loads resulting in low voltage in Delhi system. Under such critical conditions of low voltage and low frequency, DVB has to resort to unscheduled load shedding for the security of its own system and the Northern Grid as a whole. In order to mitigate the shortages during summer of 2000, an Action Plan was drawn up in November, 1999 for meeting power demand in NCT Delhi. The Action Plan envisaged steps for preventive maintenance of generating units, allocation of adequate supply of Naphtha and HSD for gas power plants sourcing power supply to Delhi, enhancement of allocation to Delhi from 15% unallocated quota to 25%, supply of power by HPSEB under bilateral arrangement, strengthening of transmission and distribution system in Delhi, preventive maintenance of transmission lines/sub-stations, installation of shunt capacitors etc. and also maximising generation from central power stations located in the Northern Region etc. The implementation of the Action Plan was discussed in December, 1999 and reviewed in May, 2000 in the Ministry of Power with all concerned including Delhi Vidyut Board and Government of NCT of Delhi.

(d) Does not arise, in view of (b) and (c) above.